

Pam Kersten

Mask Artist / Prop Artist

Studio Kersten LLC

<http://www.mask-artist.com>



Dramatic... Enchanting... Magical... Haunting... Whimsical... Charming

“Mask art is an ancient and powerful tradition. It is this artist’s foremost desire to show honor, respect, and reverence for the animals she portrays. As a form of communication, these masks have a special ability to interact with the observer and bring a new understanding and appreciation of our natural world. Their three-dimensional forms come to life allowing the viewer to feel more connected to the diversity of life on our planet. Unusual materials, inventive techniques, and Pam’s own clear vision combine to create a population of wild and wonderful animal drama.”

Bainbridge Review, April, 1996

Pam Kersten has been designing and producing marvelous masks since 1995. Animals, both wild and domestic, have long been favored subject matter. From the beginning, her interpretations have been unique and individual both in concept and in execution.

Recent designs lean more toward other kinds of characterizations, while exploring new treatments of texture, color, line, and movement. All are beautifully made, finely detailed, and highly original.

Although a few masks have been made specifically for display, Pam’s mask designs are comfortably wearable. They are lightweight and flexible, but most important, their striking designs fill them with wonder and magic... wearers consistently report feeling an immediate and thorough transformation... an easy and effortless transition into character.

Not only do they look great, they are designed with the wearer’s needs foremost, providing a wide field of vision and no restrictions to speech and vocalization. Have a conversation, act, perform, or break into song! All will be easy, comfortable, and natural while in character with one of Pam’s masks.

Much of Pam’s new work includes design and production of theatrical props and artwork that is larger in scale, such as a pair of 3/4 life size ostriches with full bodies, an elephant head with a “growing” trunk, a hog’s head. These are not masks, but are still related to her personal traditions, firmly rooted in her long standing beliefs, and representative of her commitment to excellence of design and execution.

Pam Kersten's background includes five years on staff with Guthrie Theater, Minneapolis; freelance work with The Minnesota Opera, St. Paul; consulting, teaching, and freelance work with many community theater groups and public schools in the Pacific Northwest.

She regularly supplies masks and props to theater and dance companies at all levels nationwide. Masks are designed for events, film and television, provided to individuals for masquerade, and sold to collectors.

Pam's website is <http://www.mask-artist.com/>

Events

- World Birding Center, (Texas Department of Parks and Recreation) Nine locations, Rio Grande Valley, Texas, 2004
- Seneca-Niagara Casino Grand Opening, New Year's Eve Ball, Niagara Falls NY, 2004

Television

- MTV – "Carson and Christina's Mardi Gras Masquerade", 2003

Theater

- "Healing Stories", Teatro Dominguez, California State University, Dominguez Hills, 2004
- "Into the Woods", Massachusetts Theater Company, 2003
- "The Elephant's Child", Wilmington Ballet, Wilmington NC, 2003
- "Foxfire" The Playhouse, Bainbridge Island, WA 2002
- "Tarnish", New York International Fringe Festival, 2001
- "The Enchanted Forest", Teatro Dominguez, California State University, Dominguez Hills, 2001

Film "Candescence", 2003

Galleries and Exhibitions

- Miao-li International Mask Festival, Taiwan
- Gallery Fraga, Bainbridge Island, WA
- Maskerade, New Orleans, LA
- The Wave Gallery, Key West, FL
- The Procter Gallery, Port Arthur, TX
- Harbour Gallery, Bainbridge Island, WA
- Phinney Ridge Gallery, Seattle, WA
- Bainbridge Performing Art Center, Bainbridge Island, WA
- Gallery Barbara, St. Thomas, US Virgin Islands

For further information, special orders, or inquiries, please see <http://www.mask-artist.com>

Questions? Please see "Q and A" at <http://www.mask-artist.com>

Pictured on page 1: Wolf and Witch from "Into the Woods"